

Environmental Sustainability in Costa Rica

Description of STEP Project

- 2 weeks on-campus lectures
- 10 days in country
- Concepts/topics: plate tectonics, volcanism, geomorphology, biodiversity, ecotourism, sustainability, energy, resource use, and conservation
- Activities such as: visiting scenic waterfalls, hiking up volcanoes, soaking in hot springs, night hikes, ziplining in cloud forests, crocodile safaris, boat canal tours, touring coffee plantations, turtle talks, white water rafting, kayaking on volcanic crater lakes, and so much more!



Name: Leah Kessler
STEP Faculty Mentor: Brian Lower
Major: Environmental Policy and Decision Making

What was transformational about this project?

- New ideas and exposure to different cultures
- Better understanding and appreciation for adaptability, flexibility, patience, and adventure
- Immersion in a totally different environment
- Breathtaking landscapes and welcoming people



Why did I choose this project?

- Opportunity to strengthen my Spanish speaking skills
- The chance to learn different approaches to sustainability
- Outdoor experiences with the natural world
- Escape my comfort zone



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

STEP

Second-year Transformational
Experience Program